

### **REMARKS**

Applicants have carefully reviewed this Application in light of the Office Action mailed March 27, 2007. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-7, 10-12, 14-19, 21-22, and 24-29 were pending. Claims 1, 10, 15, 21, 22, and 29 have been amended to further define various features of Applicants' invention. Claims 2, 6, 19, and 24 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and New Claims 30-32 have been added. Claims 8, 9, 13, 20 and 23 were previously canceled. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

#### **Claim Objections**

Claims 21 and 29 were objected due to the recitation of certain phrases, which the Examiner recommended be replaced with alternative language. Applicants have amended Claims 21 and 29 accordingly.

#### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1-4, 7, 19, 22 and 25-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Award BIOS* in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,000,159 issued to Jonathon T. Stern et al. ("*Stern*").

Applicants submit that *Award Bios* and *Stern*, whether considered alone or in combination, do not disclose all the limitations of Applicants' amended claims. For example, amended Claim 1 recites:

1. Software for diagnosing a memory system including a plurality of memory system devices, the software embodied in computer readable media and when executed operable to:

provide an interface for user selection of at least one memory system device for isolation;

facilitate isolation of the at least one selected memory system device by disabling all system memory devices except the at least one selected memory device or disabling the at least one selected memory device; and

perform at least one diagnostic test on a first one of the at least one isolated memory system device; and

repeat the isolation and diagnostic test operations for at least a second memory system device without rebooting the system.

*Award Bios* and *Stern* fail to teach or suggest:

perform at least one diagnostic test on a first one of the at least one isolated memory system device; and

repeat the isolation and diagnostic test operations for at least a second memory system device without rebooting the system.  
(emphasis added)

Neither *Award Bios* and *Stern* teach performing multiple diagnostic tests for multiple memory devices without rebooting the system. *Stern* teaches:

A boot operation is typically composed of the power-on self-test (POST) routine, followed by the loading of operating system 36. The POST routine is necessary to ensure that all the hardware components, including the central processing unit 28 (CPU) and memory 14, are functioning properly. The POST routine ensures that information handling system 10 has the ability to carry out its tasks. This step is necessary before the computer loads operating system 36. Operating system 36 then makes information handling system 10's hardware interact with the software.

Thus, *Stern* merely teaches that "memory 14" is tested during the "power-on self-test (POST) routine," which is initiated when booting or starting up a system.

*Stern* also teaches:

Test block assignment module 18 divides memory 14 into a base memory block 42 and plurality of test memory blocks (for example, blocks A-Z as shown in FIG. 2). Base memory block 42 is preferably the first portion of memory 14 and has a preselected size. In some embodiments, base memory 42 may store all or a portion of the system's operating system.

Test block pointer 20 records the most recently tested memory test block and indicates the next test block slated for testing. For example, if during the last cold boot, memory block C 48 was tested, then test block pointer 20 records that test memory block C 48 was tested and that test memory block D 50 will be tested during the cold boot operation. If block I 60 was the last block tested, then test block pointer 20 indicates test memory block I 60 was the last block tested and that test block A 44 should be tested during the next boot operation. Test block pointer 20 operates by communicating with test management module 16. Test management module 16 tests the selected test memory block. Then test management module 16 sends a

signal to test block pointer **20** communicating the last selected test memory block tested. Test block pointer **20** then records this information.

Trigger condition indicator **22** determines if a trigger condition (as described below in **FIG. 4**) exists. If a trigger condition exists, test management module **16** proceeds to test base memory block **42** and all test memory blocks A-I (**44-60**). If no trigger condition exists, test management module **16** tests base memory block **42** and the next sequential test memory block indicated by test block pointer **20**. In this manner, during multiple boot operations where no trigger condition exists, test management module **16** will eventually test all memory blocks A-I (**44-60**). (emphasis added).

Thus, *Stern* teaches that memory 14 is divided into multiple blocks 42. Each block 42 will be tested during a “POST routine” and given a “block pointer 20” to indicate the next block to be tested “*during the next boot operation.*” Thus, *Stern* fails to teach software operable to “*repeat the isolation and diagnostic test operations for at least a second memory system device without rebooting the system,*” as recited in amended Claim 1.

For at least the reasons above, *Award Bios* and *Stern* do not teach or suggest all elements of amended Claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of amended Claim 1, as well as Claims 3-5, 7, and 30-32 that depend therefrom.

In addition, for analogous reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of amended independent Claim 22, as well as Claims 25-29 that depend therefrom.

**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 10-12, 14-18 and 21 stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by ASUS TR-DLS Dual Socket 370 Motherboard User's Manual ("*Award BIOS*").

Applicants respectfully submit the *Awards BIOS* does not teach all of the elements of Applicants' claims, as amended. For example, amended Claim 10 recites:

10. Software for managing a memory system having a plurality of memory system devices, the software embodied in computer readable media and when executed operable to:

receive a user selection of an operating state for a first selected memory system device;

alter the operating state of the first selected memory system device in accordance with the user's operating state selection;

perform at least one diagnostic test on the first selected memory system device; and

repeat the user selection, operating state altering, and diagnostic operations for a second memory system device without rebooting the system.

For reasons analogous to those discussed above regarding amended Claim 1, *Awards BIOS* fails to teach or suggest:

perform at least one diagnostic test on the first selected memory system device; and

repeat the facilitate and perform operations for a second memory system device without rebooting the system. (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully submit that *Awards BIOS* does not show all the elements of the amended Claim 10. Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of amended Claim 10, as well as Claims 11, 12, and 14 that depend from Claim 10. In addition, for analogous reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of amended Claim 15, as well as Claims 16-18 and 21 that depend from Claim 15.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's careful review of the application. Applicants have made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and full allowance of Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10-18, 21-22, and 25-32.

Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge \$120.00 for a Petition for One Month Extension of Time to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Applicants believe there are no other fees due at this time. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.322.2689.

Respectfully submitted,  
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